Lamartine on his Mothers Diary. –

"It was the household history of the day, the annals of the passing hour, the fugitive recollections of facts and impressions seized in their flight, and arrested in their course, before the night should disperse them for ever; happy or unfortunate dates, inward events, the fall of the sands of time arrested in the hour glass, outpourings of anxiety or sadness, bursts of gratitude and joy, prayers ascending still warm from the heart to GOD, – all the vibrating chords of a nature that lives, that loves, that rejoices, that suffers, blesses, invokes, adores, in one word, a written "Seal."

(also see the preface to his "Memoirs of my Youth." by his Mother)

My Diary.

OF

My Mental Life.

FROM

My Age of 21

AND DURING

My Public Life in Business

Having left my Native Village
in AD 1856 when I was 18
and beginning at
MANCHESTER.

Madame Lamartine's Advice to her Son, for his Diary.

Do as I have done; hold up a mirror to your life. Devote an hour to the registering of your impressions, to the silent examination, of your conscience. It is good to reflect, during the day, before doing such, or such an act. "I shall have to blush before myself this "evening when recording it." It is sweet, also, to seize the joys which are fleeting away, or the tears which drop from our eyelids, and to find them again, several years afterwards, in these pages, and to say, "At this," "then, I was happy! At this, then, I wept.!" Such a practice teaches the instability of feelings and of things it makes you appreciate rejoicing and pain; not at their value for the moment, which is a false and deceptive value; but at their value for eternity, which alone does not deceive us.

— Lamartine "Preface to memoirs of my Youth"

Chaucer, says. Read well thyself, and mark thy early Ways

My Diary.

At Manchester.

Jany 1st 1859. Went to spend the day at Uncle Williams. In the evening, I, went to the concert given by Jullien in the Lower St Public Hall. Heard, Madam Anna Bishop, and Wienawski the great Polish violinist. I was much pleased with them both, especially with Wienawski, who is truly master of the violin. The great Hall was quite filled. What a reception! What a sensation! Such shouting, and waving of hats and handkerchiefs, I never saw anything before, to equal it. A man talking to me, called Wienawski – Wine and whiskey. – Ha! Ha! Last night (Dezr 1858) I heard and was much delighted with Signor Picco the Blind Sardinian minstrel who played an air from "La Somnanbula," and the ever welcome, "Home, Sweet Home." with variations. How sweet, how simple it was. Its simplicity pleased me most; for the music was entirely with the smallest simplest Whistle, I ever heard anyone play with.

Jany 4th. My Twenty-first Birthday. Went to a party in the evening to Colonel Shadwell's, invited by M. M. Lees. Did not enjoy myself very much because too much dancing.

Jany 6th. Went to Uncle Williams in the evening to a party and enjoyed myself better, because,

not quite so much dancing. More singing. I prefer a quiet party with singing, recitations, and conversation, where instruction is blended with amusement. All others, I consider, time lost. A little dancing, or games is well enough. But when they are made the principal attraction, I think it is wrong, if not sinful. It is fit only for children and then only in moderation. But when indulged in, by grown up people, and often at the expense of health and rest, it is foolish in the extreme and absolutely sinful. As if there were no higher enjoyment than the mere gratification of our bodily desires, or no greater pleasure than taking part in a series of maneuvres, like the gambols of young lambs in spring, though not always so innocent.

Jan.y 11th. Had Mr Krauss and four other friends to tea, in honor of my 21st birth day. They were prevented from coming on the 4th of Jan.y through Mr Krauss being out of town. We spent a very nice quiet evening, closed with prayer; and Mr Krauss made me a present of a Bible.

March 1. In looking back on the last two months, how much cause have I for regret. How many resolutions have I broken. Resolutions made for my good. —

Resolutions of amendment on coming of age. How I resolved to amend my past life and to live more in accordance with GOD's Will, to make a better use of my time, not to waste it, but to use it in the improvement of my mind, - to overcome those habits of idleness which I have always indulged in, - and to conquer all other sinful habits. In fact to give up all my old ways, and to live a new life; to live as I ought. But, Oh! how have I failed; not one resolution have I kept, - all broken. And why this failure.? Wherein lies this weakness.? It is in over-confidence, in placing my trust in mine own strength, when I know that in me dwelleth no good thing. GOD! grant that I may profit by my failures; grant that I may be led to place my trust in Thee, Oh! GOD, for without you I can do nothing. Do You grant me the assistance of your Holy Spirit that I may be able to keep all my good resolutions, that I may lead a new life, and overcome all temptations, and conquer all my bad habits. Do grant, that on entering, on this new era in my life, I may cast off all my past sins, and indulgences. That it may be a starting point in my life, that from henceforth, all my desires may be for the better performance of

of my duty towards You; the great object of my life, be to love You, with all my Heart, with all my mind, with all my Soul, and with all my strength; and to love my neighbour as myself; and that all my energies, all my abilities, and all my powers be employed to your honor and glory. And do Thou, Oh GOD, vouchsafe thy heavenly blessings on my endeavors to live to Thee; do Thou make me a new creature. Do Thou make me truly thankful for the many blessings which I received at thy hand. And grant that it may prove a stimulus in me, to serve Thee, evermore for the remainder of my life. Do Thou forgive me for all my past sins and offences grant that they may be all washed away in the blood of Thy Son "Jesus Christ", that I may become an earnest follower of Thee; that my name be written in the Book of Life, and that at last I may be a partaker of Thine Everlasting Kingdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

March 1st. Resolved this day to keep a diary. Attended Geometry class at Mechanical Institute; overcome by an old habit.

March 2nd. Overcome by same habit, went to business much depressed at my weakness in giving way to temptation. Again resolved to conquer it. referring to my necessary work and way of living to remove my Scurvy.

In the evening went to Homeopathic Institution, about my face. Saw Mr Drummond, and received from him, much encouragement and kind advice. Re-resolved to overcome old habits. GOD! grant that I may have strength to keep my resolution. How weak I am!
March 3rd Rose before 7. Had a pleasant walk before breakfast. Felt much better, and in better spirits and full of earnest desires for improvement. Still weak.!
March 4th Rose at 6. Wet, could not go out, so studied De Morgan's Arithmetic. When late from business, purchased a Diary.
March 5th. Saturday. Rose at ¼ to 8. Still overcome by the love of bed but retired late last night. Commencing my diary to day At last I have made good my resolution. Resolved to do so, at the beginning of the year, but kept putting it off. May He, who prompted me to keep this, assist me, that I may carry it out, and may He grant that it may be for my good, and that it may be the forerunner of new triumphs over old habits, and fresh endeavors for improvement.
March 6. Sunday. Rose at 7. Wet, thus no early walk for health, and abent from School. At Church in evening. Heard Revd Mr Birch on Acts XX. 21. He showed the uselessness of preachers in wasting their time and abilities, in giving too much heed to the logical points of the text, and of heavers in paying too much attention to learned

disquisitions and discussions on it, and neglecting the two grand and important truths contained in it, - Repentance and Faith. Repentance to GOD includes also repentance towards man, a re-imbursement of all obligations, of any loss sustained through us. The neglect of this duty, is one of the greatest hindrances to our spiritual progress. If any one indulges in any bodily desire, or any thing which is not according to GOD's law, even though his conduct towards his fellowcreatures be blameless, he sins against GOD, and is deserving of punishment. For, "Cursed is "every one that continueth not in all things, which are "written in the Book of law, to do them". —

March 7. To business at proper time, resolved to overcome the habit of being late, and to perform strictly the duties of my situation, GOD helping me. I felt much more comfortable today, with earnest desires for spiritual progress and mental improvement. Still overcome by bad temper but trust to conquer it. Thought much of earnestness, must practise self-denial and have patience. Attended Working Men's College with thoughts of fitting myself for a teacher to take a preparatory class. Require resolution, more earnestness in study and perseverance, but hope for best. Still forgetful of the great end of life and thoughtless of GOD.

Strengthen my good desires Oh GOD, and make me to think less of my self, and more of Thee

April 7. Regretting much my negligence in keeping my Diary, resolved to be more strict, being sensible of a falling off in my endeavors to live a Christian life, from trusting too much to my own strength, and neglecting to seek the aid of my Heavenly Father. Do cleanse me Oh GOD! from my secret faults, and make me ever watch= =ful of my sinful heart." — Being much unsettled of late, I anticipated leaving Manchester, on account of my face scurvy, for people charged me with a bad cause of it which was entirely untrue in my case. On March 30, I had an issue put in my arm to remove the scurvy. Much pain, but hope that the Almighty GOD will be pleased to bless my endeavors for its removal. All these things are in his hands, and are useless with us, without His blessing.

April 8. Attended preliminary examination of the Society of Arts.

April 20. Received a letter from Mr Hutchings informing me of my success in the examination.

April 22. Good Friday. Attended Church. Heard Rev Mr Birch on Zechariah c XII. 10. — Conscience again reproaches me with neglecting my spiritual duties and breaking my good resolutions. "Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in him, and he shall bring it to pass." PSALM XXXVII. 5

July. 11th. Another attempt, another resolve! Oh shall I have to record another failure! I trust not; GOD grant that I do not fall into my old ways of negligence and forgetfulness, but keep a strict watch over my conduct, day by day, and nightly record the facts and impressions of the day, before the night disperse them forever. During the interval since, April. 22. I attended the Society of Arts' examination for Arithmetic, and obtained a 2nd class certificate. Granny here during the same time, staying a month, I was glad to see her looking so well. On June 4th Cousin Tom Thexton came from Lancaster to see me, and stayed till the 7th. Studying Leslie's Philosophy of Arithmetic I make but little progress being very busy at the Warehouse.

July 16. Saturday night. Looking back on the past week, nothing that I have done gives me satisfaction. No progress in my Studies, - no advance in my self-culture. Temper predominant, pride and selfishness lurking, ever ready to show themselves and continually overcoming me. Thoughtless and forgetful of GOD, and of what ought to be the aim of my life. I hope to have a more comforting retrospect next week end. If I live and be spared to see; So strengthen my good resolves, Oh GOD.! make me more earnest in my endeavors for amendment. Remove all

that is sinful in me. Support in me that which is weak and good and make me to grow in Grace. August 1st Not having anything of importance to record, I omitted my daily notes. Have had no progress in my study of "Watts on the Mind" and "Leslie's Philosophy of Arithmetic". August 14. Sunday. Much unsettled in my mind about Existence; and full of remorse for my unsatisfactory daily conduct, having no fixed purpose. Another resolve to employ my time more profitably. At Sunday School morning and afternoon. Mr Krauss absent through illness. Mr Birch's sermon on, "When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord (Jonah II. 7th) - Thus my feelings today have been, of earnest desire for improvement, both in soul and mind, that I may grow in grace, as I grow in years; and that I may fully be able to realize my utter dependence on GOD; that I may possess that confidence and assurance in "Him", in his mercy and loving kindness to me, without which there is no real happiness here; that I may be led to seek first the Kingdom of GOD, and his righteousness, that a Crown of righteousness may be my inheritance. Another resolve for mental improvement, drew up a line of conduct for every day which, may GOD,

assist me to keep? Had now arranged to leave Manchester.
September 28. Received a letter from Mr Eason of Dublin, offering me an engagement to commence with £1. per week. Informed Messrs Newman and Wiggins of my necessity and desires, having before explained my scurvy state.
Septr. 29. Obtained permission of Mr. Newman and Wiggins to leave their employ on October, 29. therefore wrote to Mr Eason accepting his engagement, and promising to be in Dublin on November 4th.
October 6th. Received a 2nd class Arithmetic Certificate, of the Society of Arts, from Sir John Bowring, Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary in China. Rather disappointed with his appearance. A spare pale looking old man, middle size, bald forehead, stern looking. He gave a very interesting address on China. The son of a West of England manufacturer, his lot in early life cast in foreign nations, he owed his advancement to his knowledge of various languages. He recommended the study of languages to young men as being the best way to rise in life. He was of opinion that the learning of a language was not so difficult as many suppose. The best way, to learn the simple words and sentences of the language first, and the grammar would come after.

To learn it as a child learns its mother tongue.
I attended on the same evening, at a party in St. Saviour's School on the opening of the Mutual Improvement Society.

October 11. Always endeavor to preserve my independence. Never borrow money. Do without those things which are not absolutely necessary, unless I am in a position to pay for them without putting myself to any inconvenience. And deny myself of those necessary things even, rather than run in debt. Even let all my desires, necessities, and comforts of my life be subservient to this Command "Owe no man — anything." Let this be the ruling principle of my life in my dealings with my fellowcreatures and paramount to all other considerations.

Oct.r 16. Sunday. Spent the day with Uncle Thomas. Mr Burgess called in and joined us at tea. Told us he was going to the Guardian Office. I saw Uncle William and Aunt Jane in the evening when coming out of Church, and appointed to spend next Sunday, with them. Walked home with Aunt Agnes. Much pleased to day, to see my little Cousin Mary, getting on so nicely, and regretted more at leaving her than anyone else of my (Relations.)

In preparing myself to leave Manchester for Dublin, as I did not know anything of Dublin, and all persons there were entire strangers to me, I could not decide what would be the circumstances of my arrival there, before I got settled in my situation, and necessary lodging, I thought it might be so expensive to me that the money I had would not be enough for me, I therefore asked my Aunt Agnes to lend me £3, because if I did not want it when I got there, I should return at once; and if I did use it, I would return it, as soon as I gathered it out of my Wages, for I would save something. She did not however lend it me, or give me an answer. After she had a meeting with her brothers and sisters, my Uncle John scolded me, for asking her for it, and requiring it from her for myself, he said "It was not right to do so, as I might "be drowned in sailing to Dublin, and if "that did occur then my Aunt would lose "all the money and suffer from it; therefore I "should not have asked her for it." I thus afterwards always kept to my principle, keeping myself by myself as I had done before, and never getting any help from any Relatives.

November 3rd. Thursday. Was my departure from Manchester to Dublin. I had a very pleasant journey the day being so very fine. I arrived at Chester at ½ past 2. and travelled express to Holyhead. The Sea had done much damage to the Railway sea wall in North Wales during the recent storm, and the country people were very busy in repairing it. In some parts it had wasted down the stone wall and washed away the line, so that for some days after the wreck, the passengers were obliged to walk in one place ¾ of a mile, in another, 2 miles, the train not being able to pass. Saw in the distance, the scene of the wreck, of the Royal Charter. And saw Penrhyn Castle where Her Majesty stayed during her recent visit to North Wales. We stopped at Conway and then went forward to Holyhead. This being the first journey I had taken out of my own county, I was much pleased and interested in all I saw, especially the scenery of North Wales, the old-fashioned towns as as Flint Holywell re. Conway especially the Castle Bangor, the Suspension and Tubular Bridges over the Menai Straits. Anglesea I thought tame and uninteresting. I had not an opportunity of seeing —

much of Holyhead, being dark when I arrived there. The Great Eastern Vessel had left the day before. This being my first Sea voyage, we had a very pleasant passage, there was just sufficient swell, to make me acquainted with the often heard of Sea sickness. We got to Kingstown at 20 minutes past Ten, and to Dublin about Eleven o'clock. I thus had to stay all night at Hotel, "P of Wales".

November 4. Friday. I introduced myself to Mr Eason. Spent the forenoon in town. After being taken to my lodging by Mr Horsfall spent afternoon at Mr Eason's

Nov.r 5. Saturday. At the office. And so wet could not see the town.

Nov.r 6. Sunday. Breakfast with Mr Horsfall. Rest of the day at Mr Easons; introduced to Mr Carson.

Nov.r 7. Monday. Commenced at Messrs W. H Smith & Sons under Mr Eason. Placed in the Railway Advertising and Wholesale Periodical Departments.

Nov.r 9. Wednesday. Confined to bed with diarrhea, Symptom of dysentery. Thought it was the change of the Atmosphere. Sent to Mr Eason who called in the course of the day with Mr Walter. Improving the day after, but not able to go out.

Friday the 11.th Got down to office for a short time.

November 19th Saturday.— Felt much better during the week. Begin to like Dublin a little better. Weather is very fine. . Mr Eason at the London Works.
November 22 Wednesday.— Now that I have got settled down in Dublin, I can think over the change that I have made. I left Manchester for many reasons. 1st For the benefit of my health, and I trust that in GOD's blessings my fullest expectations will be realized. I had often wished to try the sea air for my scurvy, from my experience at Bispam near Southport when I was a farm labourer for 4 months in the 10th year of my age, and it cured me for 3 years. I now felt that if I did not embrace the great opportunity afforded at Dublin I should not be satisfied. My 2nd reason was, I thought I should like the business better than the Manchester trade, and I also thought, I should have a better chance of getting on. I had a desire to see a little more of the world; and I thought that my removal amongst entire strangers would enable me to get better of some temptations which pressed strong upon me. My friendship with one person not taking the form I should have wished, I felt a little unsettled and inclined to ramble about. I trust however that it may be for my good spiritually morally and physically

December 23rd to 25th. During this interval, been much occupied with business, I have still to deplore that want of watchfulness over my conduct. I have too much levity. am apt to forget myself, and conduct myself in a giddy, thoughtless manner and say and do things, I am sorry for after, which makes me dissatisfied with myself and think that I shall never be able to overcome those irregular habits. I have also to record one very great failing, the cause of much sorrow to me. I told Mr Eason an untruth, but GOD gave me grace and strength to acknowledge and explain to Mr Eason my fault to him and ask his forgiveness, or to punish me. He admired, praised and thanked me for my full, free confession and explanation. I had been having tea and spending the evening with them at their invitation, and I appeared so depressed and sorrowful they all thought I was ill. Thus when leaving I invited Mr Eason into a private room to describe my troubled state, at my simple lie to him, and give him the full confession and explanation though it was not a serious matter or bad act. But did I feel really sorry for my sin against GOD.? did I ask his pardon earnestly, and heartfelt sorrow

for my sin.! Conscience says "No". I had thought I had overcome that sin of my youth, and had sufficient strength to overcome all temptation for the future. But "Boast not thyself of tomorrow." Do thou, Oh Blessed Saviour; who was tempted in all things like as we are, look down in mercy upon me, and pardon, for this my sin to Thee, and give me, my strength to overcome all temptation to sin against thee.!
Decr. 26th. Spent half the day with Mr Eason Mr Love Mr Clark and Mr Tornothier. Had a very pleasant day.
1860. Jany. 7. Saturday. Being so much occupied this week during all each day, and also working late with Mr Eason 3 nights, I have not spent any time as I ought to have done, in looking back on the year that has gone. But on the evening of this day, the day before the Sabbath, when all have retired to rest, I stay to reflect on my past life, especially the past year, the first in the period of my manhood for Wednesday the 4th Jany. was my 22nd birthday. In thinking over my past life and reading over my diary for the past year how many changes I find even in the limited sphere of such an insignificant mortal, as I. What hopes,! what fears,! what troubles

and trials, great I think them! What pleasures and pains, what determinations, and "broken"; what resolutions, and re-resolutions, but all the same, none kept, tossed about by every wind and wave of opinion. Now feeling happy and content with my situation and thankful to GOD for my prosperity, then feeling discontented with my position, thinking I have not got on as well as I ought, but away with this thought, for it is selfish and avaricious, and love of money, pride, and the esteem of my fellowcreatures lies at the bottom of it. Last year's commencement, there was no likelihood of my leaving Manchester, When I resolved to come, my resolution almost died out. This year's commencement finds me settled down in Dublin. Next years commencement where shall I be? Dead or alive? If dead, in Heaven or Hell? If alive, here or elsewhere. Who can tell? Am I prepared for Heaven should I die? No. GOD prepare me! Received to day a letter from my beloved Teacher here, full of comforting promises. With what pleasure did I read it.

January 14th Saturday. During the beginning of the week, I felt earnest and anxious about my progress, both in spiritual progress and moral

culture. Felt more of that prayerful spirit in me, which I should so much wish to cultivate. All still seems dark to me. I see nothing clear except this plain simple fact that I am sinful, that I have not the power of myself to do good, only by the assistance of GOD's Holy Spirit; that I ought to strive against those wicked thoughts, passions, and desires; that it is my duty to do so; that I ought not to sin, but to do what is right, and that the "Word of GOD" and my conscience must be my Guide. But here I stop. When I come to think on the plan of Salvation of GOD, sending his Son to die for sinners, it is too hard for me to comprehend. Sometimes there arises in my heart, evil thoughts of unbelief, questioning even the existence of GOD, and making me fear that I shall never be a child of GOD.— This great difficulty and uncertainty is caused entirely to me by so much Atheism, and the general conduct of all older people, whom I naturally observe carefully and study, as an example to me of how I ought to live. And a further forcible cause, was that I never heard from any of our Religious Teachers, and Ministers, any Arguments, Reasoning, and —

and positive proofs of the error and falseness of all Atheism and Disbelieving of the Bible teaching and teaching of Nature. I am told that all our good actions and good desires must spring from Love to GOD. This again makes me afraid that I shall never be an heir to Everlasting glory, and tempts me to think that it is no use to me, to fight against my evil nature. I do not feel that my desires for "Good" and my feeble strivings to do what is "Right" overcome me, though I often think that they spring from "Love to GOD" I do what is right because it is right; I know it to be right because, GOD's Word and my Conscience tell me, it is right. But why do I do that which I know to be right, which GOD's word tells me it is right.? If a man tells me to do a certain thing, a man I do not love, and I am at perfect liberty to do it or not do it. But in the event of my not doing it, I shall receive a certain punishment, the greatest one he could possibly inflict; Shall I obey him.? Undoubtedly.! But what would prompt, not love, but fear,?- fear of punishment. Therefore it must be through fear of the punishment that GOD will bring upon me, that I endeavor to do right. But will this save me,?

How can I escape punishment for the sins, I have committed.— Oh Almighty GOD who looks down in pity, on the ignorant and sinful; look down on me, take away this fear out of my heart and fill my heart with love to you, that perfect love which casteth out fear, and bring me, as an humble penitent into your fold. Hear my petition and grant it Oh Heavenly Father for Jesus Christs sake. Amen.

AD 1860 January 25th Wednesday.— Went to hear Mr Spurgeon's sermon in the evening. Text. "Continue ye in prayer" Subject "Prayer." 1st part. What is meant by "Continue —ye in prayer". 2nd " Some reasons why we should pray. 3rd " Some incentives to prayer. — I was much pleased with his Sermon and felt improved; but thought, how far, very far short, my prayers fell, from what they ought to be.— January 26th Thursday. I went again to hear Mr Spurgeon. Text Rev XIV. 1.2.3. Subject "Heaven." 1st The object of the worship there. 2nd The Worshippers. 3rd The form of Worship.— I did not feel to receive that good, that improvement which I desired. Was it because I did not ask the blessing of GOD upon it? I was surprised.

I walked part of his way home, with Mr Horsfall, and had a little comforting conversation with him, on my spiritual condition; telling him of my difficulties, experiences and endeavors. After leaving him, on my way to my lodging, I fell to thinking on these words, which he recommended me to read, and which I had happened to read the previous Sunday evening.— "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the Wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up &c." St. John Chap. III. V^s. 14. 15. 16. 17 In these verses, there appears to me to be laid out, the whole plan of Salvation. It says that "whosoever" "believeth in him should not perish, but have "everlasting life." Then what have I to believe.— That GOD sent his Son into the world to die for our sins.— When GOD first created man in his own image, male and female "He placed them in Paradise, in a state of perfect happiness. But not being proof against the temptation of "Satan" they fell down; from their state of happiness of friendship with GOD, and became alienated from GOD, became his enemies; and as it were, joining with Satan, and assisting him to fight against GOD.

And instead of carrying in their hearts the image of GOD, they bore the image of Satan. As the fruit and seeds possess the qualities and nature of the tree from which they grow, so we being the seed of Adam, partake of his fallen and sinful nature. GOD threatened Adam and Eve with punishment if they disobeyed Him, a double punishment, death temporal and death spiritual, and this punishment also clings to us. We were then separated from GOD, and in a state, deserving of, and sure to receive punishment. Nothing that we could do solely of ourselves, could replace us in our former position with GOD. We could not pay the Penalty. GOD saw us and pitied us; Christ saw us and pitied us, and both loved us, and wished to see us once more in a state of everlasting happiness. But how could that be accomplished. GOD had threatened to punish us and he could not break his word. The penalty must be paid; there must be an equivalent given, and we could not give it. GOD loved us, but he loved His Son more. His Son was more

than an equivalent for the sins of the world. If "He" then would give himself for us, and pay the penalty by enduring the sorrows, trials, troubles and death which had to be endured, we should then be reconciled to GOD. Death was penalty and Christs death, GOD thought of more value, more precious than the deaths of the whole World together. Now "JESUS Christ" loved us and gave himself for us. He so loved us that HE consented to come down, and suffer all that GOD saw fit to lay upon Him, and that which GOD considered sufficient. But He could not come down without His Father's permission. "But" GOD so loved the world, " that He gave His only begotten Son. And "Christ" by dying then reconciled us to "GOD." He bought back our former position, and paid the full price. He brought us from a state of alienation from GOD to a state of Reconciliation with GOD. He made us at one with GOD. He suffered death, but by his Almighty power, he overcame death, he triumphed over it and rose again.

Christ died for the world, all may make use of Him in coming to GOD; and all must make use of Him, for there is no other way. GOD loves His Son so much that He will not receive any-one who does not come to Him through His Son. When a sinner continues in his sins, he keeps in his state of alienation from GOD.

August 9th. For the last few days, many little things have occurred to put me in a state of excitement as to the low salary I am receiving and the amount of work I have to do. I have even gone so far as to think, that I am not fairly treated by my Employer, and I had determined on speaking to him about it. But on maturer consideration I have decided not to speak to Him. I thought that I got a very low salary, not taking into sufficient consideration the short time I have been with Mr Eason, as well as my, as yet very spare knowledge of the business. I thought I had got a great deal of work to perform, forgetting that the best way to get on, is to have as much to do, as possible, and to obtain as much knowledge

as possible, and that I had two assistants under me. I have not been as long in the shop as the other principal servants, and consequently have not as much knowledge of it, therefore I ought not to expect as much salary. Besides I have no right to think about how much other servants are getting. If there is a mutual engagement, each must do the best for himself without reference to other servants salaries. In this case it is clearly wrong and inconsistent in me to think anything about it. I wrote to Mr Eason about his offer of a situation to me through his mother-in-law when he called to see her, and I was then lodging with her in Manchester. I asked him for the situation as I wanted to come to Dublin, and I accepted his engagement, without any reference to the future. Hitherto, He has treated me kindly and I have therefore no right to think that, he will not treat me as well as others. I am as yet his debtor, and for my future guidance I thus note down in my Diary my thoughts upon the subject of salary, — and situations. —

1. Be content with your situation, however you may be placed, if you are determined, or obliged by your own circumstances to stop in it.

2. A situation like everything else, must be taken with its advantages, and its disadvantages.

3. If its advantages more than counterbalance, or are even equal to its disadvantages, then rest satisfied, it is wrong to complain.

4. If its disadvantages are great, always remember that we are free to leave, if we are not satisfied.

5. The principal advantage in a situation is salary, but some situations with low salaries may have certain necessary advantages, which would, in another situation of higher salary, have to be procured at some expense; therefore a situation with a low salary and certain necessary advantages may be as valuable, or more so, than a situation of higher salary without these advantages.

6. As regards salary, to any other disadvantages, I may endeavor to remove it; and in the case of salary when there is a sufficient and just cause for demanding an increase, I may do so, without laying myself open to the charge of breaking, No. 4.

7. The following reasons, I think would justify any one in making a demand for increased salary.- 1st Faithful and efficient discharge of duties.
2nd Length of Service.
3rd Increased responsibility, heavier duties, or the difficulties attending a certain position. — Without this 1st reason no demand can be just, therefore in judging of the relative merits of the other two, it is understood that they are supported by the 1st. The 2nd reason alone, can only demand a limited increase, and not at frequent intervals. A servant may have been long in the employ of his master, and faithfully and efficiently discharged the duties of the position he holds; but he may not be capable, either from want of capacity, or the requisite knowledge; to take a higher and more valuable position; and

the position he holds may only be worth as much as he is getting for it, and perhaps his master might get it done quite as well, for less money But the degree of confidence and trust created by the 1st and 3rd reasons, I think would justify a moderate demand, which would vary according to the position held. And a Master aware of the recommendatory qualities of his servant, would most probably grant the demand, from a disinclination to run the risk of getting a bad or indifferent servant, or if he got a good one, to wait until his new servant had obtained his confidence to the same extent as the old one, and even then, he might be placed in exactly the same position, by a similar demand being made by the new one. The 3rd reason will command a much higher increase proportionately than the 2nd, but both depend upon the position. the 2nd upon the position held and the 3rd upon the position last attained to. Both taken separately may bring increased remuneration; but when joined together the 3rd takes precedence. though its claims will carry much more

power with them, and command more attention, and bring more advantage when supported by the 2nd reason. If more salary is given to servant, as a reward for 1st and 2nd reason, it will command the highest remuneration, presuming of course, that there is the capacity to undertake the "Increased responsibility". As an illustration, take the cases of a Packer, and a Cashier in a large Mercantile Concern; both may be old and faithful servants, giving every satisfaction in the performance of their respective duties, but have not the knowledge or ability to take any better position or wider responsibility, each having commenced in the lowest branch of their respective departments, and worked their way up by steadiness, trustworthiness and industry. Thus they each make a request, for an increase of salary; and it is granted. The considerations which prompt their "Employer," to grant their request, are the same in both cases; - long and faithful services; but while, the first (the packer) gets an increase of one or two, Shillings, the other - the Cashier - has an increase of as many pounds; and both are satisfied.

Now change the circumstances of grace, shown. Give the Packer the increase of 2 £. per week, and the 2/- increase to the Cashier, the consequence would be an inclination, in the mind of each, to doubt the complete state of their employer's mind. Neither of them would be satisfied, they would suspect something wrong; the first one fearing, his fortune too good to continue. And the other, thinking that his Employer did not sufficiently value the services which he did for "Him" and if further convinced that that was the decision, come to the surprise of the Packer, at his unexpected shower of fortune's favor, it would only be equalled by the contempt with which this other one, would look upon these "niggardly dribblings" to him, to his faithful servings; these "beggarly crumbs" from the rich man's table, instead of receiving his due reward, which would have been awarded him, had his master, had any regard for the friendly unions existing amongst fellow creatures, especially those close ones of the Employers and the Employed. Supposing

however, the Packer to be a young man with the requisite knowledge and capacity, and observed by his master, to be fit for higher duties; he is removed and his salary increased accordingly. He gets a larger increase than his old fellow-workman, although his time of service is not near so long. But then in his new position, he is worth more; the work done is of more value, and requires higher abilities. Increased knowledge and duties faithfully discharged bring with them extended responsibility and more difficult duties, thus rendering him of more and more value to his Employer who increases his salary accordingly. Every increase, increasing according to his position till at last he becomes Cashier himself, or some equally important situation, and here he remains, probably for some considerable period, with responsibilities the same; though Salary increasing now slowly as compared with previous advancement.

And then comes the climax of his prosperity, with increased knowledge, unabated vigour, a more closer acquaintance. The management of the place becoming daily of more value to his employer, consulted in matters of importance, having in fact the real management and control of the concern, with the additional recommendations of being an old, well tried, trustworthy and confidential servant. he receives from the hands of his master, the highest earthly reward possible. He is a partner, no longer a mere servant, he can get no higher. The three reasons combined no demand is required. It must, it ought to follow, and he who would not give to a servant such a well meaning reward, is not fit to be a servant even, and much less a Master. ! Nay, more, ! he is not fit to live. !!! _ To be virtuous, a course of dealing in which the advantage is mutual, the profit on one side being connected with the benefit of the other, is more favorable to the moral character than trades in which one man's gain is another man's loss!

As regards my health, for which I came to Dublin, I had entirely cured my Scurvy within twelve months after my arrival; and soon after had a good change in my natural bodily state, which was apparently putting me in a better way of health; similar to my short residence at Bispham near Southport when I was ten years of age, and was made by my bad Step Father, to be a farm labourer for 4 months. — Now in Dublin the changes were evidently the result of the climate and beautiful Atmosphere. — But during my four years employment here in Dublin I have been very much surprised at the fact that I have never met with anyone, having the same view and ideas, of life and its conduct, as my own are. I therefore cannot feel content to remain here; as I think that to continue my friendly, amusing associations with so many of my acquaintances, I shall naturally become depressed in my view and conduct of life which would, thus with my general previous view, make me very miserable. And as from all my conversations with my friendly

acquaintances and companions, they evidently have such a low and defective idea of the best way to go on in business, and all public conduct, and even their own ways of private living. And as I cannot agree with their ideas and ways, I cannot comfortably live among them as a servant. And as from my very great amount, and long days, of work; I have also had attacks on my health in new forms. I have thus therefore decided to leave Dublin; and go to Lancaster to see old Mr Williamson Oil cloth Maker. St George's Works; according to his pressing request, and my promise to him, when I was leaving Messrs Newman and Wiggins, his agents at Manchester.

I have thus come to Lancaster and to oblige and please Mr Williamson, although in Dublin I had been a prominent manager in two different businesses, yet I now at St George's Works condescended to be one of the lowest labourers in the Warehouse at a low wage, until he put me into his office

to be his Book-keeper, Clerk, Cashier and Office Manager, for which, he had originally wanted me from Newman and Wiggins. As Lunesdale was my native district, and I had often been in Lancaster from my birth-place at Whittington, during my childhood, and Pupil-teachership till I was 18 years of age; it is now a pleasure to me, to come and live here. It has at once brought me back to my fixed view and attemptive conduct of life, and my soon making many friendly acquaintances, and praisers of my views, and addresses on any subject.

1865 February 22nd "Recommenced my diary", — what strange, what sad, what regretful feelings are brought up by that sentence. The time that has passed since I discontinued my diary; the time has gone, for ever, passed into eternity, never to be recalled, with all its hopes, visionary, and disappointed, or still bright. My fears passed, and are now insignificant, though once desponding and overwhelming, all the thoughts, words

and deeds have passed away for ever, either for good or for evil. _ Oh GOD! grant that the retrospection of a similar period to come in future, may not be with the same better feelings; but that each coming day, may find me a wiser, better, and holier man; for of this, I am convinced by my own short experience, that, - be what you will, - do what you will, - or go where you will, without true religion, there is no true happiness. To say the least, - Virtue is its own reward here, in this world, and no possession is comparable to a still, and quiet conscience, "one void of offence," "towards GOD, and towards man".

I rose at 8, which was "too late" I thus experienced its weakening bodily effects; and its depressing tendency, moral and mental, being hurried in my own duties, and somewhat behind in the business. The great lesson I have learnt to-day is, that imprudence, rashness, and youthful folly, and a wilful obstinacy, in not being guided, by those older, wiser, and more experiences, thus soon meets with its due

and merited punishment. Therefore, be cautious, patient, teachable, respectful to elders, and discreet persons. No studies or readings answered several letters, therefore I relived with hopes and aspiration for Improvement. February 23rd. Rose at 7. 30, in slothfulness, wandering and distracting thoughts. No French or Elocution till evening. I read Beard's "self Culture", Lamartine's "Voyage" for an hour - then retired at X. 45.

Wilcox. Advice on **ACTION.**

" Do something; do it soon! with all thy might; "
" An angel's wing would droop, if long at rest; "
" And GOD inactive, were no longer blest. "
" Some high or humble enterprise of "Good" "
" Contemplate, till it shall possess thy mind, "
" Become thy study, pastime, rest, and food, "
" And kindle in thy heart a flame refined; "
" Pray heaven for firmness, thy whole soul to bind "
" To this high purpose; to begin, pursue, "
" With thoughts all fixed, feelings purely kind; "
" Strength to complete, and with delight review, "
" And Strength to give the praise where all is due "

My General Course, now to be Pursued.

TIME.	DUTIES.
A.M. 4.	Rise.
" 4. to 5.	Wash, dress, Exercise, Devotions.
" 5. to 7.	Business study. French and others. ※
" 7. to 8.	General Culture. Physiology.
" 8. to 9.	Breakfast, private business, or general culture exercise
" 9. to 12.	My daily labour.
P.M. 12. to 1½.	Dinner, private business, or general culture exercise.
" 1½. to 7.	My daily labour.
" 7. to 8½.	Tea. private business. general culture exercise.
" 8½. to 9½.	Business study. French. Translation Tuitions. ※
" 9½. to 10.	Diary. Devotions. then to Rest and sleep.

February 24th Rose at 7. In better spirits, through rising earlier. studying French, then to business, nothing particular to be remarked. From Mr James conduct in "E"s case; those who are often the readiest at threatening and bullying, are the soonest cowed when opposed. Therefore be kind, civil and thoughtful and respectful to all, and beware of rash words. Met with Cousin Thexton at home, at 9, tea, and study until X.30. and

× a trade travellers

retired to sleep at 10-30, with hopes of improvement tomorrow.
Feb.y 25. Rose at 7. – Business. Feb.y 26. To Whittington
" 27th. Rose at 8.20. – Lesson [illegible] Day
lost commenced drawing up Course of Study
Feby 28th. Rose at 7.45. Study hour, Lesson in
[illegible] Day lost. – Finished [illegible]
March 1st. Rose at 4. Study French. Physiology.
at Business till 5.45. P.M. Then a chat with
Hogarth till 10.45. Retired to bed.
March 2nd. Rose at 6. Physiology. – Business.
" 3rd. Rose at 6. Early Studies, French and Physiology.
Business. – Voyage en Orient. I am hopeful,
and sanguine. How exquisite the pleasure,
how thorough the enjoyment of life, when
every moment is occupied, when something
attempted is something done. It is a double
pleasure, pleasure at the time, and a pleasure
to look back to one step further and one step
higher. The pleasures of hope are far above
those of imagination, especially when
accompanied with attempts to reach what
we hope for. We progress, and time is
employed. Imagination is but day dreaming,

time wasted, and brings with it no pleasing retrospection, but regrets for time mis-spent.
May 16. Rose at 8, though awake at 4. Meditating on future prospects as opened up by the events of Sunday; thus hurried and late to business, - no devotion, but discontented and unsatisfactory all day, inclined to be testy. Nothing that I can look back on with pleasure, no good done, day lost, no study. Impress upon me, Oh! GOD, with the proper value of time, teach me the right use of it, and give me strength to overcome the temptation of indulging in idleness, idleness of mind as well as of body, idleness in thought, and speech. For thou hast said that, - "Every idle word must be answered for."
1866. January 21st Sunday. In evening went to St. John's Church; heard Mr Hadfield of Silverdale on behalf of the proposed St John's Schools. Text. "Holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." He treated upon the nature and character of Holiness as set forth in the Bible.

The means of arriving at this Holiness; and Sunday schools as a means, Holiness is more than mere morality, of performance of the duties prescribed by the Christian Religion; it is inward purity. GOD sent forth man in a state of purity, and now that he has defiled himself by sin, - He has arranged and planned means, whereby he can regain that state, - salvation by Jesus Christ. Sunday Schools are one of the most important means of Grace, as they strike at the very root of the evil by teaching and guiding the young. Thought of future conduct, and considered plan of further self improvement, Thy talents to improve take care, For the great day thyself prepare. Heard of the sufferings of a poor woman through Mr. Mawson, and sent her a small sum, promising to try and get some work for her husband.

January 23rd Examination of Cottam for the murder of Eliz.th Nelson at Scotforth. Before D. De Vitre & at the Town Hall was liberated on Bail.

January 24th Busy at office till late. and to end of week.
Jan.y 28th Sunday. To St Johns Church in the morning, at home remainder of the day reading "Bunyan's Pilgrims Progress.
Jan.y 29th Monday. To Office all day. At a party in the evening. Mrs Mawsons birthday.
Jan.y 30. Tuesday. Ill and confined to bed.
Jan.y 31 Wednesday. Rec'd F. Macfarlane Jamaica
February 3rd Have been unwell for the past few days. Weather very stormy.
Feb.y 4th Sunday. At home in the morning. Parish Church in the afternoon, and to St Johns in the evening. Distressed with wandering thoughts harrassing me desiring that benefit from the servie that I ought to do. It is only through Christs blood that I can expect to have my sins forgiven, and He has promised that those that come to Him, He will not cast out and ask what ye will, and it shall be done. I can do nothing myself but cast myself entirely upon GOD's mercy, to let Him do what seemeth good

to Him. And looking for direction from His word, and the inward guidance He will give me in answer to my prayer; I will prove myself and show my repentance, by striving with His assistance against sin. In His word he says "I will be with thee

March 10th Went to Manchester to see my relations, and on the 12th I saw my former employer Mr. Newman, and he advised me to keep quiet and wait the tide of events. Such friendly advice, I will do so.

March 30th Good Friday. At Office all day. At night prepared for another attempt at a regular course of study. Read 1st chapter in Beards Self Culture. I thought upon the responsibility which rests upon every one, to improve the talents, GOD has bestowed upon them, to train and educate the faculties with which they have been endowed. I ought to remember that I shall have to give an account of every idle word I speak. Not idle alone, in being without purpose, without object,

not idle alone, in being jesting or foolish, but idle in not being properly spoken, in not being spoken actively, energetically, and full of meaning. Every thing I do, every word I utter, every thought I think, ought to be carried out as if I was performing some act of duty to GOD and ought to be done so as to glorify Him. Our lives may and ought to be done, as one continual, increasing sacrifice to him, and service under Him. He has commanded us to use our talents to advantage, to make that use of them, He has intended; he has also told us, that we must provide for our wants, by the labours of our hands; that He has placed us all, in particular circumstances where each has his duties to perform, and He has further told us that "to obey is better than sacrifice" "and to hearken, than the fat of rams." And from this I infer that I can serve Him just as much by my daily acts and conversations as I can by ruling myself before. There is a time for action, as

well as supplication, and it is quite as wrong and as disobedient towards Him to spend the time set apart for action, in supplicating Him for assistance, and mercy, as it is to omit supplication altogether. Saul's sacrifice was no excuse for his disobedience in not doing his duty, and it did not preserve him from punishment. In the parable of the ten talents no mention is made of the time each spent in asking for his Lord's assistance, favor or guidance, but simply of the various ways that each performed the duties assigned to him to trade with his Lords money. Two were Good and faithful" and dutiful, the other Wicked and Slothful.

March 31. Saty To Office all day. Heard from Mr Macfarlane in Jamaica.

April 1st Sunday. At Morning to the St Thomas Church. At Evening to St. Johns. On return called at Mr Hartleys. I was in house all the other portion of the day.

April 2. Monday. At Office. Evening at lodging home. Study — French.

April 3. Tuesday. All day at office. Evening at lodging home. My Study. French.

April 4. Wednesday. All day at Office. Evening at lodging home. my Study. French.

April 12 Thursday. Rose at 7.30. French study. To Office. Evening At School of Art. On return at home read Beards Self Culture.

April 13 Friday. Rose at 7. Then French study. To Office all day. At Evening my French Study and Beards Self Culture.

April 14. Saturday. Rose at 8. To Office at once. No study today. Visiting some friends.

April 15. Sunday. At my lodging home all day.

16. Monday. Rose at 7.45. To Office. Left at 7.45. evening. French, English were then my studies and Beards Self Culture.

April 23. Monday. Rose at 7.30. To Office at once. Mr Williamson and Mr James away at London. At the Mill during the day. In the evening at my lodging home confined my reading to the English.

April 24. Tuesday. Rose at 6. Read English
To office early and did not leave till 9. p.m.
April 25. Wednesday. Rose at 7.30. my study
Beards English. To Office early.
At Greenfield Mill during the day coming
home at 8. p.m. My evening study, Beards
English. I am much interested in his
mode of teaching, and in looking into
the meaning of words and their derivation
April 26. Thursday. Rose at 6.30. Morning
Study Beards English.
To Office early and there all the day.
In the evening To School of Art till 9.
At the Band till 10.30. My conversations
with McKinlay, Budd, Preston. Birchall.
My study and solitude always gratify and
please me most. I experience the greatest
delight in meditation and reflection. Being
in company, tends to an exuberance of
spirit which leads to carelessness and
thoughtlessness in conversation, and
to levity of manner

April 27. Friday. Rose at 6.45. Studying Beard's English. To Office early. How much surprised I was with Mr Cole the Manager of Mr Williamson's Works when he told me how well acquainted he was with my mother. Thought he had never seen me, and I was quite a stranger to him till I came to the Works. My Mother was a young woman twenty years of age, when I was born at Whittington. Before this, she had been a servant at Rochdale, in South Lancashire and it was the cause of me. She thus had to come to her Mother's home for my birth. And when she was quite well after it, she then went to be a servant in a gentleman's house at Heyalam As Mr Cole, who came to the works from Heyham was then living there my mother thus became friendly acquainted with him, and the young woman who was afterwards Mrs Cole. Mr Cole said, my mother was a good young woman, and he was sorry, that one of Mrs Cole's brothers had not married her as he had thus made a mistake in not.

How strangely people are brought together.
I have been more thoughtful today, than yesterday, and have not lost command of myself so much as on other days.

1866 April 29. Sunday. In much discontent from wandering thoughts.
To Church twice. Felt I received but little good, but went as a duty. Had Thoughts of past present and future conduct, with Self Examination with a prayer for future improvement and usefulness through GOD's goodness to me.

1866 April 30. Monday.
Rose at 6. 30, not satisfied with such indulgence. Much more content and sweeter thoughts on trust in GOD than usual. Oh! for a continuance of such, founded on a certain confidence that I am His. Read Boards English wrote essay on Vice and Virtue. —

May 2nd Wednesday. The Cheese fair. and saw many of my elder friends from Whittington.

I was afterwards very much troubled in my mind from having thoughtlessly in my conversations with them, mentioned a matter respecting a young man, a mutual acquaintance which matter is very discreditable to him. The fact named is perfectly true. I did not say anything against him untrue. But the consideration that I had even repeated voluntarily, anything detrimental to a fellow creature, presented itself so forcibly to my mind, as being wrong, that I was quite tormented for the remainder of the day. And every time it returns to my recollection, it gives me pain and makes me feel ashamed of myself. I consider it, mean, ungentlemanly, and uncharitable, and I can trace it to nothing but those detestable feelings, of envy vanity and pleasure at another's fall. I pray GOD earnestly, to keep me from such a sin again, to guard against such feelings which are ever lurking ready to rush out on an unguarded moment

It has been another great lesson to teach me circumspection in thoughts and in my conversations. How soon we can utter, or do, or think, that which causes us to have hours, or days of discontent and torment of mind

May 5th Saturday. Went to Whittington to see relatives and friends.

May 6. Sunday. At Whittington Church.

" 7 Monday. Returned to Office work.

My thoughts are upon the carelessness and forgetfulness of God which this visiting induces

May 21. Works closed. Had half holiday for out door exercise to improve my health.

May 22 Tuesday. Left Castle Station at 9.30 with two friends who went to Milnthorpe I got out Lowgill to walk to Kirkby-Lonsdale through Whittington Parish. and returned at IX.30 p.m.

May 23. Wednesday. At my Office work again.

" 27 Sunday. To Church in the morning.

" 28 Monday. Rose at 8. Went to Office.

June 25. Monday. Engaged at the office and my spirit tested by one there.

21st Tuesday. Rose at VI. 30. A.M.

On Friday last, I lost my temper in speaking to one of the men. I wish to record it as another lesson for constant circumspection, as it arose out of such a trivial circumstance. In anger how apt I am to misunderstand what is said to get wrong ideas, simply because I do not take time to think upon them and sift them.

August 20. Monday.

Rose at 8 a.m. and at office until 6 p.m. Mr Williamson has arranged with Hadfield for a time respecting the Varnish Trade. I could not glean the terms, I must wait, as I should like to know, and see if Hadfield has given way.

November 5th Monday. I was now unable to attend the Chemistry class of Mr Prosser. I commenced studying a complete course of Mathematics and Algebraical Signs

November 12. Monday.
I attended Dr. Moore's Lecture on "Light".

November 15. Thursday.
Rose at 8. And was at the Office work at 8h. 45m. I was not well through cold and leaving off at 7. I had a bath, and getting to home at 9h 35m p.m. I spent some time in Reading and then retired to Sleep at 11h p.m. On Tuesday evening the 13th there was one of the great Meteoric Showers which occur every 33 years. I did not see it, but have had accounts of it from several persons.

November 22. Thursday.
Rose at 8. Oh! this indolence. Not thus at Office till 8h 40m. I think there is an improvement in getting down to business earlier and a quicker despatch of my work in the early part of the day. I did not return home until 9. p.m., therefore I was not able to attend the School of Art.

November 28. Wednesday.
Rose at 7.20 and got to Office at 8.10 a.m. and left at 7.25 p.m. I was thus able to be at Mr. Prossers class of Geology at the Mechanics Institute. Retiring to Sleep at X.40.

1867. January 1st Tuesday
Nothing of importance to note to day. I rose at 8.15, got to my Office Work at 9. a.m. and left at 6.30 p.m. Spending the evening in my lodging home, and retiring to sleep at 12. I am most dissatisfied with myself, there being no proper progress either spiritually, in culture or in business.

January 2nd Wednesday.
A repetition of yesterday, and I thus attended a short meeting of the Soiree Committee at Mechanics Institute. 9 to 10.

January 3rd Thursday
Again have I to write that I have no improvement to notice, and can thus only refer to my late rising,

forgetfulness of GOD and many other sins, which thus fill me with self dissatisfaction, which is further increased by my despairing of ever overcoming them. Whether I shall or not, GOD only knows; and I can see no way, but working on in humble dependence on Him, hoping that he will work all things for the best for me. I have even no event to notice, except my going to see old Mr Woodhouse, relative to the intimacy between me and his daughter Mary. He offers no objection to it. I thus enter upon this earnestly, with the sincere hope that it may be for the happiness of both of us.

January 4th Friday.

This is my 29th birthday. I forgot all about it till I came down stairs and was agreeably surprised by the kind wishes of Mrs Mawson and the family, and the gift of an

handkerchief. At noon I had another pleasant surprise. Mary came up and brought me a scarf, and new years gift. In the evening had a little amusement with Mr Thrickle and Mr and Mrs Mawson.

1867 January 31. Thursday.

I wrote to Mr Williamson for an advance of my salary.

February 1st Friday.

I went to the Office as usual. In the evening Mr James called me into his office and spoke to me about my letter. As he could not agree, my notice therefore stands firm.

February 4th Monday

Mr Williamson spoke to me about my letter and made me an offer of a gradual advance to £125 then to £135 and then £150, for me to consider upon it. On Wednesday Feb 6th When at Office all day as usual. I then spoke in the evening to Mr Williamson, refusing his offer

1867. February 7. Thursday.

Today at my Office work in my usual style. I again had a very friendly conversation from my employer Mr Williamson as his Book-keeper and Office manager; and I now accepted his offer to me as it was made in a way evidently to satisfy me as his satisfactory servant. And as he was always very candid with me, allowing me to speak freely to him, even though in some cases I was very different to him, my ideas and opinions being quite opposite to his; yet He admitted my reasonableness and correctness approved and praised my general conduct; and my specially decided style, of how I would work during my life to supply myself with all food, clothing and residence necessities of it. As a further proof that this is Mr Williamson's opinion of me; I must report that Mr Horsfall

had come from London to see us. He had known me for some time being my fellow servant at Mess^rs W. H. Smith & Sons business at Dublin, and my closest acquaintance in the social intercourse there. He now told me that last night he was at a large tea party at Mr Williamsons and in a conversation, some of the persons had started on the difficulties of working men that Mr Williamson said to them from my style of the conduct of life, I had not, and never would have any difficulties in providing myself with my necessary simple requirements of bodily living and getting on well. And to prove the correctness of his remarks he looked direct at Mr Joll and said Was not that my character as he knew me well, and Mr Joll assented to it.

February 12th Tuesday.

Rose at 8. And at my Office work at 9 a.m. for all day as usual with simply dinner time allowance. Mr James returned to day, and at night I left at 6 p.m.. I was able to go to the School of Art at 7. And when at home afterwards I was thus able to make this entry in my diary before retiring to my bed at 11 p.m.

February 22nd Friday.

Rose at 8. To my Office work at 9 a.m. for all day as usual. Returned at 7 p.m. In this evening at home, I read Physiology and drew a first copy, as I really wanted to understand my natural body construction so as to know how to live properly in feeding and exercise.

February 25. Monday.

Rose at 7.45. To my Office work at 9, and again returning home at 7 p.m. At home all the evening.

merely writing to relations in other places; and then reading a little before retiring to sleep.

February 26. Tuesday.

Rose at 7.30. To my Office work as usual at 9. As they were playing "The Messiah" at the Music room in the evening, I had arranged to go with Mary Woodhouse and called for her at 6.25 but I was disappointed as we could not go her mother being very ill. I thus stayed with them till 9.30. Then returned home, and reading a little before I retired to sleep at 11.

February 27. Wednesday.

Rose at 7.20. To Office work as usual at 9. Left at 6.25 in the evening. Whilst at tea Mary Woodhouse called to see her uncle and Aunt. I thus took her home returning myself direct at once, and then wrote letters to relations having nothing worth reporting opinions of in my diary. Retired at 11.30.

1867 March 1st Friday.

I rose at 7.30 this morning. I am very dissatisfied that I do not rise earlier. I am very far from being contented with myself, not on account of worldly prosperity or temporal cares, but owing to my forgetfulness and carelessness. My two great failings, are my self forgetfulness, and self indulgence. I want so to live, that every thought I think, every word I utter, every act I do, may have an object, and be done advisedly, discreetly, and with a purpose, so to watch myself, that I may control myself. Forgetfulness loses control, and lets in indulgence; and Indulgence weakens and changes us in every way.

March 4th Monday.

Rose at 8. How all my good intentions and resolutions for early rising have gone for nothing. The old mental opposition was there

in full force to show its strength, and gain an easy victory. and what a deadening effect it has had upon every days rising. I have felt, as if I had left something undone. It is not that contented feeling of being before hand, of driving my duties before me, it is that dissatisfied feeling of not having done my best to overcome my failing; and it is shame at my having been so easily defeated

March 9. Saturday

I rose up at half past Seven (7.30) after dozing away for some time which I ought not to do. At 8, I came down to breakfast which occupied me about 20 minutes. I then departed for the office arriving there about 8.35. and commenced my daily labour which today closed at 1.10.

Having previously arranged for a row down the river Lune with two other fellow servants, we took a boat

from the step and pulled down to below Aldcliffe in company with others, who were in another boat. On our return we stayed a short time at Snatchems for rest and refreshments, and after a rather tough pull back, we landed at 4.30 well tired for want of regular exercise. I thus came direct home, and did not again leave the house simply reading till I retired to sleep at 11.15
Forgetfulness of God and self denial still hold their sway over me. Oh that I may find strength and comfort for the coming weeks in the test and devotion of tomorrow Sunday.

April 5

Arose this morning at 7.30. after permitting Indulgence's usual victory over me. My Lavations and dressing were satisfactory, but how cold my prayers and devotions. Worldly considerations will show their power. Reaching the business office at 8 for

my work. the morning labour was fairly satisfactory. Left punctually at 12 for dinner and returned at 1.30. The afternoon labour was very unsatisfactory. How difficult I find it to maintain that constant supervision over my conduct I once could do. I plainly see the older I grow the harder it is. This I look upon as a portion of the punishment GOD appoints for neglect of Him whilst we are young; and on the other hand to be free from it He no doubt appoints it, as a reward to those who seek him early. that it is thus easier to overcome our thoughts and desires for sin then. I left the office at 6 35; and called on Mr Prosser to pay for Books and stayed with him until 7 30. I have nothing to report for to night simply retiring to sleep at 11.30. after some simple reading. On June 18, I wrote to Baker about a Microscope with a glass shade, asking him if he can

pack it safely, and to allow him 5% on it if he can. He says nothing about carriage in his letter or about any risk. I cannot therefore take the responsibility. If sent at all, it must be delivered to me in perfect order or not sent at all.
I also today wrote to the British Equitable Society advising payment to Mr Prosser of £13.5.6 as a first premium.

1867 December 28. Saturday.

The sight of my diary recalls to me my negligence and my curiosity is aroused to look back for what is the result. What I wrote two years ago, and what I wrote when I first commenced to keep this diary, I may write again. It is the same old, old story. No perseverance and hence little or no progress. "The good that I would, I do not, the evil that I would not, that I do." In the mornings the powerful grasp of gentle sleep lays me on my back and binds me

to my bed. My mind however is beyond its control, and either soars aloft into that hazy Utopia in which at such times it so fondly loves to dwell, or else meditates upon the weaknesses of the frail tenement that holds it; often laughing in grim sarcasm at its own indecision and impotence. Man may talk of morality, but morality has no power here. To me, it appears that nothing but Christian responsibilities will enable one to overcome the sweet yoke. In an half sleepy state sometimes I can hear the soft and clear sound of the chain of reasoning that binds me. The warning voice bidding me to remember the bitter thoughts of self-reproach for past indulgences, and assuring me that they will again repeat their visiting. This fails to drive away the fascination of these drowsy sensations. As the cup is

drunk in the full consciousness of the
better dregs at the bottom; and wasting
time with the tempter confident in
power, he taking yet another sip of
the nectar; how often am I, like the
bee caught in the grasp of the flower,
and there held till, will, urged on by
necessity, bursts the bonds, only to
find itself face to face with its due
reward. A day's bewailing for an hour's
enjoyment; can this be overcome.?
My 30th birthday will soon be here.
Another trial shall be made. Success
has crowned my efforts for a short
time; Why not for all time.? Our
greatest glory is not in never
falling, but in rising every time
we fall. Heavenly Father! look
upon thy child, who desires to
serve Thee, well and always. ...
My experience of life, and working
for my fellowcreatures in all my
different places, during my past

age, to present time, has suggested to me the following resolutions in my continuous earnest study of life, and how it ought to be conducted; and has caused me to accept them as the most proper correct and essential principles, and rules of conduct for the most happy and successful course of life to all population.

The Resolutions.

1 Owe no man anything.—
2 Be content with what is my own.—
3 Never sanction the slightest appearance of deceit either in thought, word or deed.
4 Be honest in principle as well as in actual deeds.
5 Be straight forward.—
6 Be just before I am generous.—
7 Never do anything without considering 1st Why am I doing it? 2nd Am I going the best way to secure my object? 3rd Am I proceeding on

right and sound upright principles. Thus I must never do anything that will not bear the strictest investigation, that in every respect it is in strict accordance with these principles; and I must be self dependent. I was thus very much surprised to find it was a very common mistake of persons, to make a charge against me, that was not quite correct. I therefore said, in each case, "I cannot accept it, and "as you are making such a wrong" "complaint against me, I cannot" "submit myself to you, and remain in" "your employment and therefore must" "leave it at once. Of course if I did do" "anything wrong and you could prove" "it in a proper and practical manner," "I would at once submit myself" "entirely unto you for you to give me" "any punishment you would like to do" "or if it was a loss to you, I would allow" "a proper repayment out of my wages"

and would leave myself entirely in your
" own hands, for you either to keep me in
" your employment or dismiss me at any
" time you liked to do. I should show you
" how sorry I am that I had done it and
" that I would do anything you required to
" be satisfied in it, and you would thus see
" and admit how right and pleasant I was
" in my business connection with you.

1870 June 1st

Nov. 1869 All this occurred with young Mr James Williamson in the office and I thus had to leave at the end of March 1870. As old Mr Williamson and his son Mr Thomas did not know all about it at the time of it; and as I was then a married man, living in a rented house in West Place with my own furniture I thus had to have a sale by Auction when I was leaving them because I was leaving Lancaster for London. Therefore when Mr Williamson and Mr Thomas saw my advertisement

of the sale by Auction of my household furniture they sent for me to see them on Sunday, and asked me why I was having the sale. I thus gave them a full account of the matter and what I had said in their office. In their reply to me they both said my principle was right of action, and they could quite understand why I was leaving. Before left as the work and clerks in the office had increased, and might be more; old Mr Williamson asked me to organize the office for them. I did do so in a document sent to him. And when I was in London I got the the following letter from him.

Lancaster 13 April 1870

Dear Sir,

Accept my thanks for your favor of the 11th Inst and for the draft of the Office arrangements enclosed therewith, trusting you may succeed to your entire satisfaction, in your new undertaking, and believe me, Yours truly Jas Williamson

Wm Ayton London.

This shows what a strong courageous good gentleman he was. —

1870 July 1st

When I had arranged to leave Lancaster Mr Forsyth of London recommended me to Messrs Walter Graham & Co of Glasgow advising them to take me to be their representative in London. I thus received an offer from them on Feb 21st; and although I then informed them that I had never before been in their iron trade anywhere, in any way, yet they sent their request again, for me to go; I thus accepted it and came to London in April. As the duty of my employment here, has made it requisite for me to visit every portion of the City, and its district, I have thus taken a great personal interest in it during the week end release from work. My resulting actual experience of the many circumstances, while I have been here, has again very much surprised me at the many views

of the ideas and resulting conduct of my fellow-creatures. As London is the capital, the most ancient largest city in our country, and thus being the head position of the government of the entire British Empire; it is wonderful that there should be so many different ideas of the proper form of the conduct of human life thus causing so many differences resulting in the wrong conduct of unfortunate persons, and their often cruel punishment. This place being the capital and central position of the power and government of the Empire, why has there not been a good teaching of proper conduct, so that all the people here would at least be right, and it would, of course extend elsewhere to a certain extent. In all the insurrections of the people, that have come before me, I have gone into a thorough examination and discussion of each of them, showing how it was

wrong, and how it might be, and ought to be made right. And any one talking to me, however high their social position over me might be, I reasonably presented them from proving me to be wrong.
Of the independent pleasing events, when nothing was wrong, one to me was that one business day, I met in the street Mr Chas Dickens the great popular Author. I recognised him at once having carefully looked at his likeness, and I thus vowed to him. I was afterwards surprised, that it was so near to his death when I met his funeral passing through the streets.
In my situation as Graham's representative I could not be sufficiently successful to myself in obtaining according to my own idea, the proper quantity of orders for my employers, although they have not yet complained. I have been told by some of the business people on whom I have called, that I would

not get any orders, as none of the other previous young representatives had done so. Therefore my non success, and the thus apparent impossibility to do any thing, has made me very sorrowful; and as I cannot remain in that state I must leave. To stop my wage legal demand, I closed the agency on June 30.

As they have written to me several times, complaining of my leaving, all they have said is evidently from a wrong impression. I therefore wrote them a long letter on July 7, giving them a full explanation of my proper conduct and the real state of their agency, and how I was thus forced to leave them, going in a friendly way helping them as long as I am staying here although I have suffered a loss in my payment of wages. I cannot therefore do otherwise, than decide to go to Coventry to be the Bookkeeper and Office manager for Messrs

Power & Hadfield the Varnish Makers there. This was to consent to and accept several earnest urgent requests of Mr Jno Hadfield who before had been the introducer of Varnish making to Mr Williamsons at Lancaster where I was the Book keeper there in their Office. Mr Hadfield in pressing me to go to them; has always paid, same as in his applying letter of June 9th that I was the most suitable fit and proper man for them as they could place very confidence in me to take charge of their Office, if it was agreeable to me and we could come to terms. I am thus going sometime this month of July from here to them. It has been a difficulty and a great expense to me to have my Wife and young son from Lancaster staying some part of my time here with me. It will be much easier and cheaper going to Coventry as we shall go together at first and Hadfield promises to pay expenses.

My residence in Coventry has been very useful and enjoyable to me, as it has permitted me to examine, and study the doubts, difficulties, problems and mysteries of humanity, life, and Nature; and to have many pleasing conversations with my nice acquaintances, giving them my explanations of what was required by them to know, and showing them in a friendly way how they were making the mistakes which made them so very sorrowful to themselves. It is very surprising and pitiable to me that my lovable fellow people misunderstand so much, how they ought alway to go on in everything they have to do, whatever may be their social, and national position. It is especially pitiful with those who themselves are so sorry at their ignorance and mistakes; and thus pleased and most thankful at being taught right, and they do

thank me when I am so reasonable.
that it cannot be denied in any way.
As there is now a closing up of the
partnership between Mr Powers and
Hadfield, on account of the big Paris
bill. and Mr Hadfield having been
there. and staying so long about it.
. And as Mr Hadfield has decided to go
and be a Varnish Maker in Paris,
and Mrs Hadfield says she cannot
go there unless he takes me with him
into his business; I am going with
him and thus now even leaving here.
It is not quite a pleasure to leave
my poor Coventry neighbours. and the
business people friends, though I
cannot but think it will be a very
wonderful new circumstance of
life to me, as a further experience
of the many varieties in population
and their conduct of life; by my
going to live in Paris, and thus
be able to see any part of France.

and the Continent as I would like to do. And as Mr Hadfield has now begged me, to go with him; I accept his request, and place my day of changing to it in his own arrangement of it.

1871.

Leaving Coventry the last day in Oct.r on the Wednesday night we went down to Newhaven, got on board the boat and set sail at 10 o'clock. It was a very rough passage, and I was very sick. I got rid of a lot of bile so was better after it. Mr Hadfield was not sick at all, and was very kind in sitting beside me and getting me anything I wanted. Isaac was sick but not so bad as I was. We arrived at Paris in the evening of Nov.r 2.nd but coming by a slow train and staying at Dieppe and Rouen for refreshments we got in to Paris very late; and I was very unwell with being sea sick. Beginning thus to live in Paris, we first stayed at a very nice hotel, quite

a Grand one and very full of very fashionable people, but I necessarily got out of it and into a private lodging as soon as I could, because it would to me be quieter and more comfortable for me in my style. Now Paris is a splendid city to me. No town in our country, not even London are to me equal to the state of Paris. It is not only quite a treat to walk along the streets and look at the shops. But the atmosphere of the entire city is such a surprising advantage in the general requirements of good health. It is as clear as that of the country where there are no houses or works. For although it is such a large capital town, there is no smoke out of any house, and I could not consider how the air of the town could be so clear. I was thus surprised and satisfied when I afterwards saw daily how they managed their fires for warming their rooms, and even their cooking.

As a beginning I was also much pleased with their food. For a lodging I was advised to go to Asnieres, as it is a nice suburb with many English people 200 Wood and a great place for the shopkeepers and tradesmen of the town having houses there for the summer, being a great place for people going to enjoy themselves in summer time, and there are plenty of Cafes where we can get anything we want. There is no difficulty in shopping for even English people, as there are lots of all kinds where "English is spoken". In the hotel nearly all spoke English so there is no difficulty for us getting on among them. The climate is nicer and drier than in England. So Isaac soon said he felt better for it.

As my great subject in all my experience of life, has always been to observe earnestly and interestedly the various circumstances of the population, wherever I might be so that I might notice and learn all the various doubts, difficulties, and problems of life, and also all their conduct, with regard to the natural world, the Universe and their own humanity. It has thus been very pleasing to me in Paris to see some improved modes of supplying many requirements of life. By travelling over France and the Continent, I have also received much information and teaching which has confirmed past history to me

But I have had an important, surprising matter, affecting me and acting against me in a practical way. It is the fact of so many instances of closing peoples life. The origin and cause was social destruction by the lower labouring class, closing the life of neighbours, and companions in meetings whenever there was any difference and opposition in their special opinions. And then the government representatives stopped the life of these social destroyers. I even myself had a similar risk and danger from government jury though I had not done anything to cause or deserve a punishment. I happened to lodge in a house where there was another man lodging who I sometime after, found he was connected with the Revolutionists. I did not know very soon. Being at first in his company so much, in the house, I was thus friendly acquainted with him. When he was afraid of being taken by the government representatives he changed his lodgings secretly,

several times without telling why he was leaving, or where he was going. As I did not know why he was leaving, he privately begged me in a friendly and earnest manner to change with him each time as his friend saying it would be an advantage and also a pleasure to me as a foreign stranger to Paris. Though he changed two or three times in such a secret way the Government people had found out where he was, and took him to their judging place. And as I was lodging in the same house with him they also took me to their trial. He of course was soon condemned, put to death, and buried in the ground close in front of their meeting room. They then took my case in their discussion. While they were doing so, I was walking round the place of the man's grave, thinking and wondering where mine would be. As they did not come to the same definite decision for me, and I was in the room with them,

defending myself and explaining how I happened to be with the other man. I told them who I was, where I was from, how I came to Paris, and what I was doing in it. And I pressingly challenged them to make an enquiry about me from our English Ambassador in Paris. This, thus closed the matter with me. The Ambassador and his assistants, all of them afterwards talked to me very kindly, asking me how and why I was there. which I thus fully explained to them in my usual way. While remaining in Paris as Hadfield could not settle me down properly, so that I could take the chosen house to have my family with me. I was thus much dissappointed and forced to leave his works. In coming back to England, as my little family were at Lancaster I decided to return there, on a visit, to see how I should have to settle down again in England and where about.

As I had written from Paris to a former private friend in Lancaster telling him I was coming back. On arriving in Lancaster at night, I met him in the street, and he told me Messrs Storey Brothers wanted me. This doubtless was owing to their knowing that I had been at Williamsons, and one of them had also seen me at Messrs Powers and Hadfield at Coventry.

Going to Messrs Storey's the following morning, I entered into an engagement with them for two years at £200 per year to superintend their Varnish Department to begin at once on this day; and at the end of two years, a new arrangement was to be entered into if satisfactory to both sides; a written agreement to be given by them to me. Of course in beginning with them, I would give them my advice and do anything for them to improve any part of their business if they would accept my general help, that being my natural character

In my work at Storeys acting in my natural way, I have recommended many different things to improve the style and result of their work; and to make the changes practical and right did them myself with the necessary help of the workmen, so as to talk to them in a friendly way, explaining the entire matter, so that they might understand it for carrying it on by themselves afterwards. And even in Midsummer I worked out in the field, helping them to make the hay. With regard and love to all my fellow-Workmen, I have always friendly advised any of them, young or old, to alter their way of doing anything I was noticing, and considered it might be done in a better different way; so I thus showed them how it could be done better, even for themselves as well as our Employers. They were thus always friendly thankful to me; that being my experience with workmen in every situation I have been in.

I have been very much surprised at having one day in April a dispute with Mr Edward Storey similar to the mistaking treatment I have referred to before, from many other persons. It was that he thus made against me a complaint as would not accept my complete and correct explanation in my usual style of the fault referred to. I therefore said "I could not remain with him, as it made me so very unhappy and uncomfortable with myself. Because when my Employers by complaining of me in any way to me, it seemed to me that they were not perfectly satisfied with me, that being my only comfort and pleasure with any one I was connected with. When I was going out he said "he did not want me to leave them." I said "Why then have you found fault in me when there is none, and thus made me so sorry that I cannot stop.

I then went to his brother Mr Thomas at their Cotton Mill to tell him of my leaving then, and asking him, that before I called on another day to settle with him, he should get from them, all the information as to my conduct at the Oil cloth works. When I went to him again, he mentioned several matters to me that were not quite right, though I need not leave there works. To defend my fame and superior distinction, I proved to him that the reports were not correct as referring specially to me. And to prove my own conduct in leaving, same as I had done at other places, I said, that as I had no relations or any one else to help me, my character was my only fortune for my progress in life, and I could not, therefore, remain at any place where I was grumbled at incorrectly, and thus lowered. I thus came to an agreement with Mr Thomas.

Now, to give a proof that I am correct as to my defence of my character. I will quote a letter I received from Mrs Hadfield in Paris on Jany 14th 1872 when I had been forced by circumstances to visit my family at Lancaster before I left Mr Hadfield at Paris on March 30th Mrs Hadfield says. "Dont, my very "dear kind friend, for one moment "think I blame you. I know all you "say, to be correct, and I have too "much confidence in you, to doubt "your sincerity."

As I was thus now in this April of 1873 AD at Lancaster, again upset by others or myself, and thus thrown on the wide world; I must trust entirely to GOD's guidance, in endeavoring to profit by my failings, and do my best to earn a living, and as I had in all previous changes been guided by my own thoughts, I was now not wishing to leave Lancaster again, if I could stop.

As I had left Mr Williamson's works Office before by a difference with his son Mr James; and as a friend in Lancaster every time he met me after, he always said to me "that I was very foolish in leaving Messrs Williamson & Sons." I therefore now went to him, and said "that as he had always so friendly complained me for leaving them; that if He could now get from Mr James a permission for me to go and see him friendly, I would do so to offer myself through him, to go back again to them. A visit to him was thus arranged for Thursday evening, April 24. and this resulted in another visit to him on Saturday the 26th. This after a long conversation with Mr James, resulted from him in an engagement with them, for me to commence in their works on May 1st. His father Mr Williamson, and his brother Mr Thomas were both quite satisfied with me, when I was with

them before, and they were very kind to me. Hence after my having been in London, Coventry, and Paris, and at Storeys since I came back to Lancaster when I have now come in their employ again, they are both, most wonderfully kind friends to me; and I am thus most delighted at now being their Works Manager, and Varnish Maker.

1873. Dec r 1st.

I have commenced again my diary to record the employment of all my time. I rose at 7, instead of 4. I have Read Townsends Introduction to Genesis, and learnt the first 6 verses; and begin reading the Elements of Nature. At again commencing my diary, and the systematic course of study, at my 36th year of age; after so many repeated and broken attempts; my thoughts of them are so agitating and so overwhelming to me, that

I have failed to record them. If only for my children's welfare, I do trust I may not again have to record another failure. Past experience has proved the weakness of human nature, so GOD only must be my source when I require and look for aid. I did thus attend very carefully to my children, all the time I was at home, teaching them and showing them how they ought to live, pointing out all their mistakes and wrong acts for their proper health comfort, and conduct in life, and thus scolding them and confining them in the house if they would not act as they ought to do outside. I am always desirable of teaching any child or older person, on any mistake I notice in them. Since I came back to Lancaster this time, having rented a house in Skerton, and thus being a teacher in the Sunday school;- from my teaching, speeches in meetings, and my conduct; the Revd Mr Brack, the minister

of the Church, has this year, requested me to be the Lay reader for him, in his Church; and thus go in the examination for it. Therefore I was examined by Bishop Frazer from Manchester, and ordained by Him, in the Parish Church at Lancaster, to be the "Lay-Reader" in St Luke Church at Skerton. One of the Ministers, who were in the Church to notice my ordination, he said to Mr Brack, that wished he had in his village a young man like me for his Church. The Revd Mr Brack had desired others before me, to be the lay readers, but he said they could not reply the examination, and that I was the only one who could pass through the exdmination. Young Mr James Williamson also asked me, How had I been able to answer the Bishop's religious examination, as he was surprised I had done it so well. As I was now the Lay Reader, after I had read several Sundays in St Luke's Church for Mr Brack; He then ordered me to go each Sunday to Bare near Morecambe to do the

Sunday service for them in their room, both forenoon and afternoon. They seemed very much satisfied with my reading the prayers and Bible chapters, and my own sermons Dr De Litre, the highest attendant, who lived at the large "Hall" there, he always took me to dinner and tea with them, for my service, and pleasingly referred to what I did. It is a great serious, happy enjoyment to me, to work amongst my fellow-creatures, for our Heavenly Father, without my charging anything for it. It thus increases in me the necessary attention to the "Problem of life," which has been so much excited and suggested to me by the conduct of all people wherever I have been living. I thus do hope and do beseech "Almighty GOD," my "Heavenly Father" to help me to solve it. I have had several strange conversations with persons, of which I give reports, in my solution of the problem of life, some years after this. —

As I left Lancaster and Skerton again in AD 1879; and during my residence

in Ormskirk till 1882; having many Intercourses in Ormskirk, Burscough, Liverpool, Southport and several villages. And in AD 1882, I went to live again in Manchester, to the necessary business occupation for the maintenance of life. And as in all these recent changes and the intercourses, my religious experiences were just the same as the varied religious experiences of all the other years of my life, in towns, cities, and villages people, and the many newspaper reports; by which I had thus learned the many atheistical free-thinking, and scientific objections to the Bible, Christ and GOD; and even the greater difficulty produced by the many defects in the public and private life of professing Christians. Having been taught in my boyhood at Whittington that I ought, and must believe in GOD and his Bible and pray to GOD. And the good, kind, and perfect conduct

of Mr Green at Whittington Hall, and of Revd Mr Thorold at the Parsonage, — were then a proof to me, of the truth and certainty of the teaching. There were, of course, some wicked people, who even went to the Church, so I thought that they did not properly and honestly accept the teaching, to live exactly to it. But in the general experience of all my after life, with the people, wherever I was living; I was thus brought into an uncertain, questioning, and wondering mental state, why the Bible teaching, was not forcible, and completely carried out by all intelligent people. And as I was never relieved from it, by hearing any sermons, discussions, or teaching lectures, to oppose, and show how wrong and untruthful this science teaching, and simple deficient lecturing was. And as I never heard from any leaders and teachers, a real correct, and complete solution of the problem of life. It thus —

naturally enforced itself upon me for a thorough solution, and ever remained in a prominent position in my mind. I was thus mentally compelled to solve it for myself in AD 1886. in Manchester, when I had been appointed a Churchwarden, at St Clements Church in Greenheys. Now Private Study has these two advantages. There is privately a full perfect liberty to think as we like, and perfect protection from any prejudiced and selfish influence from others, that publicly, and openly, might be brought to bear on us. When I began my enquiry, I naturally thought that this continual spiritual life is the most important point, if coming after the death of short bodily life. It is thus either a reality, or it is not. It must be either, one or the other. If it is a reality, then it is just an actual fact of life, like all the facts and truths of nature, by which we are surrounded. And I also thought: If this Spiritual life is a reality, and a fact

for me, and I am wanting it, then, I judged, that I must have a capacity, or power to lay hold of it, and understand it. And that there must also be a mode of describing and explaining it, that is quite acceptable to my reasoning, and adapted to my intelligence. And so understandable, that I could not be otherwise, than convinced of its truth. I thus, this year, 1886, solved the problem of life in an impressive and decided way, and have written a complete account of it, if any person would like to see it. I was also one Sunday after this, I was born again, in a certain, real, positive way, which came of itself, over me, in a forcible manner. And I could never after, change, or act in any way different and opposing to it.

William Ayrton

His Diary